

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1456

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016

Street Light for Villages

Swami Maharaj Dr. Sakshi

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government provides funds to Gram Panchayats for street lighting in villages, if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government has demanded a utilisation certificate of funds from the concerned authorities, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any actual target is fixed for this purpose, if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) whether any timeframe has been fixed for providing street lights in all villages in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) : Under the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) award, grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore for the period 2015-2020 are being devolved to Gram Panchayats (GPs) constituted under Part IX of the Constitution in 26 States including Uttar Pradesh. The grant is provided to GPs for delivering basic services including street-lighting. Under the 13th Finance Commission award for the period 2010-15, untied grants were disbursed to Panchayats. State-wise status of allocation and release of grants for the years 2013-14 and 2014-15 under the 13th Finance Commission award and for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 (upto 21.11.2016) under the FFC award are given at Annexe-I & II.

(b) : Release of subsequent installments of the grants under the FFC award is subject to submission of utilization certificates for the previous installments drawn along with compliance of other stipulated conditions.

(c) : No, Madam. The GPs incur expenditure on basic services as per their approved participatory Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) based on local felt needs and priorities.

(d) : No, Madam.

(e) : Does not arise.
